



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Sanctuary System
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
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7SAC.MIN (Revised 1 July 2003: Amended 20 July 2003)

7th SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
THE RADISSON HOTEL
16 June 2003
Rockland, MA

MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT

William Adler		
Regina Asmutis		
Peter Auster		
Priscilla Brooks		
Gib Chase	(Alternate to Priscilla Brooks)	
Kevin Chu		
Kathleen Dolan		
Susan Farady		
Barry Gibson		
CDR Greg Hitchen		
Donald Hourrihan	(Alternate to John Williamson)	
Paul Howard		(Ex-Officio Member)
Jack Kent		
Judith Pederson		
Charles Rasak	(Alternate to Richard Wheeler)	
Kathi Rodriguez	(Designee for Patricia Kurkul)	(Ex-Officio Member)
Susan Snow-Cutter		
Mason Weinrich		
John Williamson		
Sally Yozell		

SBNMS and NATIONAL PROGRAM STAFF

Craig MacDonald, Superintendent	Ben Haskell	James Lindholm
Kate Van Dine	Nathalie Ward	Dave Wiley
Anne Smrcina	Columbine Culberg	Jud Crawford

OTHERS PRESENT

Christian Adams: MIT Sea Grant
Rosemarie Bradley: Antioch University
Carole Carlson: International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
John Galluzzo: Scituate Mariner
Erin Heskett: International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)
Danielle Luttenberg: Environmental Defense Fund
Olivia Rugo: Mt Fisherman's Partnership
Kate Smuckler: NOAA National MPA Center
Susan Summer: Environmental Defense Fund

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes (Sally Yozell)

- Revision and Approval of 6th SAC Minutes (amended)
- Review of Agenda
- SAC Business (Nathalie Ward)
- Election of Executive Committee: New officers elected — John Williamson (President), Sally Yozell (Vice-President) and Susan Farady (Secretary)

II. Working Group Discussion (Craig MacDonald)

Working Group Characterizations: MacDonald discussed revisions of Working Group (WG) characterizations with **MOTIONS** carried to establish the following:

- Deletion of internal working groups
- Initial Marine Mammal WG divided into 3 WGs: MM Entanglement; Vessel Strikes and Behavioral Disturbances
- Site characterization separated from Ecosystem Management. Noted that site characterization status information would be provided for all WGs as appropriate.

Working Group Goals and Objectives: MacDonald addressed SAC's request to establish WG goals and concurrent set of alternatives for Action Plan (AP) that in turn leads to Final Action Plan(s) for Management Plan Review (MPR). **MOTION** made to present the goals and objectives of each Working Group (consistent with the law and defined in Scoping Comments) at 8th SAC Meeting (1 October).

Working Group Membership and Structure:

- MacDonald discussed membership process: appointments for WG through nominations by SAC, those recommendations then approved by Superintendent and Executive Committee (**MOTION**), and appointment/notification to WG members in July 2003.
- Each WG will be chaired by SAC Member; SAC Alternates can only Chair if Member is not present. Working Groups are open to the public but public must caucus with a WG representative to voice their concerns.
- Consensus: MacDonald noted that decision-making process for WG will be consensus-based; WG is looking for "options" for consensus not alternatives.

Working Luncheon: Presentation (Craig MacDonald,
"An Update of the SBNMS Management Plan Review")

III. Discussion of Draft Work Plans (Staff)

MacDonald presented the template for Work Plans (WP) emphasizing that the intended outcome of each WP is an Action Plan (AP) for the specific WG issue. Additionally, he requested the SAC's revision and/or additions to "Representation" for each WG. Staff presented individual WPs, and SAC commented and made revisions to Representation category. Noted other SAC CONCERNS. Additionally, SAC requested that the SBNMS Staff provide the following to the SAC and each WG:

- A Blueprint for Working Group Process and Timeline would be made available to every WG before the first meeting;
- Improved communications would include WG Minutes, Timelines, etc. on SBNMS website.

Site Characterization—Working Group Participants:

<i>SBNMS Staff Team Leader:</i>	<i>James Lindholm</i>
SBNMS Staff (3):	Dave Wiley
	Ben Haskell
	Michael Thompson (contractor for TPMC)
SAC Member Chair (1)	
Academic Seats (2)	

NMFS (1)
NCCOS (1)
Mass CZM (1)
USGS (1)
Marine Mammal (1)

Technical Advisors:

Technical advisors will provide supporting data to the Sanctuary, and may provide presentations on particular topics directly to the working group.

CONCERNS: Site characterization status should be made available to every WG and a report to the SAC at the next meeting.

Ecosystem Alteration—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader:

James Lindholm

SAC Member Chair (1)
Academics (2)
Fishing Industry (3)
Recreational Use (1)
Conservation (3)
NMFS (1)
NEFMC (1)
Mass CZM (1)

Technical Rep: Mass DMF (1)

Technical Advisors:

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Ecosystem Management—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader:

James Lindholm

SAC Member Chair (1)

Academics (3)
Fishing Industry (2)
Conservation (2)
Recreational Use (2)
NMFS (1)
NEFMC (1)
Mass DMF (1)
Mass CZM (1)

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CONCERNS: Mason Weinrich was concerned that boundaries issue as noted in Scoping Comments was not represented in issue definition. Paul Howard stated that fishing is marginalized under Ecosystem Management (WG), and queried why the issue did not have a separate WG as in marine mammal issues. Adler and others offered suggestion that Ecosystem Management and Ecosystem Alteration attend to very different issues which much be delineated at the beginning of the WG.

Compatibility Determination—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: Kate Van Dine

SAC member Chair (1)

Fishing Industry
Recreational (1)
Commercial (1)

Conservation (2)
Shipping Industry (1)

Whale Watch Industry (1)
Academic (1)
Legal / Policy Academic (1)
Governmental Agencies (3)
Economist (1)

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CONCERNS: Kate Van Dine stated that an outcome for this WG would be a decision-making tree that would facilitate the method for determining compatibility. Farady and others stated the importance of including a socio-economist and legal policy representative for this WG. Noted that Compatibility Determination WG would serve to inform and assist in evaluation of other WGs.

Vessel Strikes on Marine Mammals—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Team Leader : *Dave Wiley*
SAC Member Chair (1)
Shipping Industry (3)
Conservation (4)
NOAA Fisheries (2)
Science (2)
Recreational boating (1)
Tuna Association (1)
Charter Boats (includes whale watching) (2)

Technical Advisors:

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CONCERNS: John Williamson recommended SBNMS hire a negotiator to facilitate contentious WGs.

Behavioural Disturbance of Marine Mammals—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: *David Wiley*
SAC Member Chair (1)
Commercial Shipping Industry (1)
Commercial Whale Watching (1)
Conservation (2)
Recreational Boating (1)
Tuna Fishery (1)
NMFS: Regional Office, NE Science Center (2)
Academic (2)

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Marine Mammal Entanglement—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Team Leader *Dave Wiley*
SAC Member Chair (1)
Commercial Whale Watching (1)
Fixed Gear Fisheries
 Trap (2)
 Gillnet (2)
 Longline (1)
Conservation (4)
MADMF (1)
NMFS (2)
NEFMC (1)
Academics (2)

Technical Advisors:

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Water Quality—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: Ben Cowie-Haskell

SAC Member Chair (1)

Academics (3)

Fishing Industry (2)

Conservation (2)

MWRA (1)

EPA (1)

NMFS (1)

MA CZM (1)

Cruise Lines (1)

Recreational Use (1)

Technical Advisors:

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Public Outreach and Education—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: Anne Smrcina

SAC Member Chair (1)

Aquariums/Museums (2)

Public Education (elementary, middle, high school) (3)

Universities (2)

Media (print/electronic) (2)

Public Awareness (2)

Conservation Groups (2)

Government Public Information Officers (2)

Fishing Industry (1)

Whale Watching (1)

Technical Rep: Recreational User (1)

Technical Advisors:

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Maritime Archaeology—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: Ben Cowie-Haskell

SAC Member Chair (1)

SBNMS Staff:

NMSP Staff:

Anne Smrcina (education)

Bruce Terrell (program analyst)

Jeff Gray

Academics (2)

Museum (1)

Other government (2)

National Park Service

MA Bureau of Underwater Archeological Resources

Fishing Industry (2)

Whale Watching (1)

Diving (1)

Conservation (1)

Private (2)

Public Archaeology Lab, Inc.

American Underwater Search and Survey, Inc.

Technical Advisors:

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Administrative Capacity and Infrastructure Development and Maintenance—Working Group

Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: Nathalie Ward
SAC Member Chair (1)
SBNMS Staff (1) Administrative Support Specialist
NMSP Volunteer Coordinator (1):
NMS Foundation staff: (1)
Public with experience/skills in program administration, property management, docent program operation, organized fund raising, etc.

Technical Advisors:

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Inter-Agency Cooperation—Working Group Participants:

SBNMS Staff Team Leader: Kate Van Dine
SAC Member Chair (1)
Agencies (14) as listed above
Legal / Policy Academic (1)
Public Interest (1)

Technical Advisors:

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IV. Other Council Business

- Revised Summary Scoping Document (Craig MacDonald): Reviewed evolution and changes, approved by SAC.
- Future SAC Meeting Dates (October, December, February, May)
- *SAC Seats Available: Member (1): Mobile Gear-Commercial Fishing. Alternates: Education (1) Recreational Boating (1) Fixed Gear-Commercial Fishing (1).*
- October 8th SAC. Discussed 8th SAC Meeting Agenda with possible inclusion of Information Forum and Reception following meeting. Decided that 8th SAC would present “Site Characterization” review; SAC’s to follow would host information forums including NEFMC for 9th ASAC (December 2003).
- SAC monthly updates to resume detailing SBNMS staff highlights
- NEPA: Kate Van Dine discusses NEPA process
- ***MOTION:*** SAC requested that a letter be sent to NEFMC to publish SBNMS boundaries on charts
- Leadership Training (LT) Meeting: Boston, MA. Invitation by Superintendent to SAC for reception (8 September) and whale watch (10 September). (Dates tentative).

V. Public Comment

Erin Heskett (IFAW) expressed IFAW’s commitment to seek productive partnerships with SBNMS and interest in participating on Working Groups.

Danielle Luttenberg requested that the website have SAC information available on timely basis to inform the public of SAC proceedings (past and present) and Working Group formation and future updates.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS of 7th SAC MEETING

MOTIONS carried by SAC to establish the following:

- *Deletion of internal working groups*
- *Reorganization of Initial Marine Mammal WG divided into 3 WGs:
MM Entanglement; Vessel Strikes and Behavioral Disturbance*
- *Site characterization separated from Ecosystem Management. Noted that site
characterization status information would be provided for all WGs as appropriate.*
- *Recommendation that WG membership be approved by Superintendent and Executive
Committee*
- *Request that a letter be sent to NEFMC to publish SBNMS boundaries on charts*